(SGRY) and the Special Component of the SGRY (till 11th February, 2003).

More power sought by Nagaland

792. SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nagaland has sought more powers under Article 371 -A of the Constitution during peace talks held in the 2nd week of January, 2003 with the Centre; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Peace Talks were held during the month of January, 2003 between the representatives of the Government of India and the NSCN(IM). During the discussions, NSCN(IM) raised among other issues, their demands relating to the district identity of the Nagas and their stand on unification of Naga areas. There was an agreement to continue the formal talks until a lasting settlement is reached. Meanwhile, both sides reaffirmed the need for a peaceful, violence-free environment.

It would not be in public interest to disclose the further details.

Deputation of CISF Personnel to Protect VIPs

793. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to depute Central Industrial Security Force personnel to protect VIPs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether they have been given enough training to deal with situations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI, I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The security of VIPs is the responsibility of the concerned State Government/UT administration. However, it has been decided that wherever central assistance is required for protection of VIP protectees, CISF shall be the designated force.

Accordingly, a Special Duty Group of CISF personnel is being trained for VIP protection duties.

The training of CISF personnel on VIP security is continuing in a phased manner at NSG Training Centre and CISF Training Institute.

Anti-Terrorist cells in States

794. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set-up special anti-terrorist cells in each State to face any terrorist related activities; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard, with number of such cells situated in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN RATHAK): (a) and (b) Almost all States have agreed to initiate action to strengthen local capabilities and set up Special Task Forces with the trained personnel and state-of-the-art weaponry to effectively counter the incidents of terrorism.

Request for conferring 'Bharat Ratna' on Kalpana Chawla

795. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria for conferring 'Bharat Ratna" title on an individual;

(b) whether the Central Government have received requests from the public to confer 'Bharat Ratna' title posthumously on Kalpana Chawla, the Indian born astronaut;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government; and

(d) if the request is not being considered favourably, the reasons for rejecting the request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) In terms of the statutes and rules relating to Bharat Ratna, the decoration is awarded for exceptional service towards